

# The Daily Gazetteer.

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11. 157.

## LETTER XVII. from the National Merchant.

*A Scheme for Regulating the Colonies, Trade, and Navigation of Great Britain, wherein the National and Mercatorial Interests are united and preserved; and the Glory of his most gracious Majesty, and the present and future Happiness, durable Prosperity, and true Grandeur of the British Nation, are consulted, submitted with the utmost Deference and Respect, &c.*

### S C H E M E.



FIRST, That a Court be erected by Letters Patent of his most Sacred Majesty, revokable and subject to Modification or Alteration at Pleasure.

SECONDLY, That the said Court be named, the *British Royal Court of Merchants*.

THIRDLY, That the said Court meet, at least, once every Week throughout the Year, on some certain Day and Hour, with a Power to adjourn, appoint Committees, &c.

FOURTHLY, That the Place of Meeting be in the Royal Exchange; and that the most commodious and most handsome Apartments there be fitted up for that Purpose.

FIFTHLY, That the said Court be composed of,

1. A President or Governor, to be nominated by his Majesty annually.

2. A Sub-Governor, to be elected by the Members themselves.

3. A Deputy-Governor, to be elected in the same Manner.

4. ONE or two Members to be appointed annually by the most noted Towns in England for Trade and Manufactures; and four by the City of London.

5. FOUR Members to be appointed by Scotland, and to be annually nominated by its Representatives in the British Parliament.

6. FOUR Members to be appointed by Ireland, to be nominated by the Representatives of that Nation.

7. Two Members to be appointed by every of our Plantations, to be nominated in like Manner.

8. ONE or two Members to be appointed by the Bank; and every great Trading Company in London, to be nominated annually by their General Courts.

9. His Majesty's *Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations* for the Time being, to be all Honorary Members, and have Right to be present at all Proceedings.

N.B. EVERY Member chosen to continue for one Year certain, and till superseded by the Nomination or Election of another to succeed him, which will prevent Interruptions and Disorders.

SIXTHLY, Any Twenty-one or more Members to make a Court, but the President (or Governor) or Sub or Deputy-Governor, to be one of the Number.

SEVENTHLY, The Design and End of the Commission to be, to inspect, hear, and examine all Matters whatsoever relating to Manufactures, Trade, Navigation and Plantations, and to make Report thereof, and deliver their Judgments thereon in Writing, to his Majesty's Board of Trade and Plantations; and to draw up and offer for their Lordships Consideration, such Regulations and Improvements, as, from time to time, they shall conceive proper to be made; all to be submitted for their Lordships Approbation or Controul; and by them to be laid before his Majesty in Council; or be recommended to Parliament; or otherwise, for them to do therein, as they shall find most expedient.

THIS is a very rough and short Sketch of the Scheme; but I suppose clear enough for every one to conceive a general Idea of it: Let us therefore examine its Propriety and Usefulness.

### As to its Propriety.

THIS Court is not proposed with a View to infringe or lessen, in the least, the Power of his Majesty's Board of Trade; it is rather to dignify and assist it; in a Word, to serve as a Grand Jury or Inquest, truly to

represent Matters to it. And no doubt from such publick and well-digested Informations their Lordships will receive truer and clearer Lights, than they have yet been able to obtain from the partial Complaints or disguised Accounts, which often come from particular Persons. And from this Court their Lordships will have the best and freshest Advices of all Things touching their Commission, and thereby be the better and more certainly qualified to answer all its Ends.

2. As his Majesty will appoint the Governor or President, who, to be sure, will be always a Person of great Eminence, Worth, and Skill, and the Commission is only for Probation, and during Pleasure; it does not seem possible that any Disorders or Factional Designs should arise from it: On the contrary, it would tend to create a right and firm good Understanding between his Majesty and his Subjects, and engage them in all his Interests, as inseparable from their own. The gaining the Love of her Subjects, and making their Honour and Interest the Measure and Standard of her own and the Nation's Glory, evidently was the Cause of Queen Elizabeth's, the Renowned Queen Elizabeth's great Successes, and the prodigious Rise and Increase of the English Naval Power and Trade in her Days: And I believe it is no bold thing to affirm, that the maritime Transactions of her Reign make a most illustrious Shew in the British Annals. For there we see such a Number of Ships and Men fitted out by the Queen, and such a Number by her loving Subjects, who adored her, acting in Concert, taking, burning, sinking, and destroying their Enemies; new Countries discovered, Colonies established, and a wonderful Trade carried on: So that the whole Nation in her Time has been fitly liken'd to a Hive of Bees in a warm Sunshiny Day, — Of the Fruits of whose Labour we yet partake.

3. As to the several Bodies enumerated to appoint the Members of this Court, the Number to be sent by each, and the Manner of their Election or Appointment, they may be altered for the better, tho' I have not suggested these things without some Consideration.

4. As to the Place for its Meeting, I believe every one would rejoice to see the Royal Exchange once more inhabited, and such an Assembly, it may reasonably be presum'd, would give it a Splendor not yet thought of; which brings to my Mind Mr. Addison's Description of this no less useful than noble Edifice, and which I cannot omit, after pleasing myself, that Posterity in Crowds will make a full Stand at George II. the Restorer of this Place, and the mercantile Glory of the Nation. —

There is no Place in the Town (says Mr. Addison) which I so much love to frequent, as the Royal Exchange. It gives me a secret Satisfaction, and in some measure gratifies my Vanity, as I am an Englishman, to see so rich an Assembly of Countrymen and Foreigners consulting together upon the private Business of Mankind, and making this Metropolis a kind of Emporium for the whole Earth. I must confess I look upon High Change to be a great Council, in which all considerable Nations have their Representatives. Factors in the Trading World, are what Ambassadors are in the Politick World; they negotiate Affairs, conclude Treaties, and maintain a good Correspondence between those wealthy Societies of Men that are divided from one another by Seas and Oceans, or live on the different Extremities of the Continent.

I have often been pleased to hear Disputes adjusted between an Inhabitant of Japan and an Alderman of London, or to see a Subject of the Great Mogul entering into a League with one of the Czar of Muscovy. I am infinitely delighted in mixing with these several Ministers of Commerce, as they are distinguished by their different Walks and different Languages: Sometimes I am jostled among a Body of Armenians; sometimes I am lost in a Crowd of Jews, and sometimes make one in a Group of Dutchmen.

I am Dane, Swede, or Frenchman, at different Times; or rather fancy myself like the old Philosopher, who upon his being ask'd what Countryman he was, replied, That he was a Citizen of the World. — This grand Scene of Business gives me an infinite Variety of solid and substantial Entertainment. As I am a great Lover of Mankind, my Heart naturally overflows with Pleasure at the Sight of a prosperous and happy Multitude, inasmuch that at many publick Solemnities, I cannot forbear expressing my Joy with

Tears that have stolen down my Cheeks. For this Reason I am wonderfully delighted to see such a Body of Men thriving in their own private Fortunes, and at the same time promoting the publick Stock; or, in other Words, raising Estates for their own Families, by bringing into their Country, whatever is wanting, and carrying out of it, whatever is superfluous. —

If we consider our own Country in its natural Prospect, without any of the Benefits and Advantages of Commerce, what a barren, uncomfortable Spot of Earth falls to our Share! — For these Reasons, there are not more useful Members in a Commonwealth than Merchants: They knit Mankind together in a mutual Intercourse of good Offices, distribute the Gifts of Nature, find Work for the Poor, and Wealth to the Rich, and Magnificence to the Great. — When I have been upon the Change (adds he) I have often fancied one of our old King's standing in Person, where he is represented in Effigy, and looking down upon the wealthy Concourse of People, with which that Place is every Day filled. In this Case, how would he be surprized to hear all the Languages of Europe spoken in this little Spot of his former Dominions, and to see so many private Men, who, in his Time, would have been the Vassals of some powerful Baron, negotiating like Princes for greater Sums of Money than were formerly to be met with in the Royal Treasury. — Trade has multiplied the Number of the Rich, made our Landed Estates infinitely more Valuable than they were formerly, and added to them an Accession of other Estates, as valuable as the Lands themselves.

### 2. As to the Usefulness of such a Court.

It would take up too much Time and Room to set forth how much Good this Court might do: I shall therefore ask a few Questions, and leave it to every one, Whether much might not be done by it? And, whether there needs not much to be done? — For

ARE there no Stops and Hinderances to Industry and Honesty?

ARE there not many Livelyhoods, and great Estates obtained by what we may call legal Dishonesty, destructive of the common Good, and contrary to the true Nature and Reason of Things?

MIGHT not our Laws be reformed, digested, and regulated, in innumerable Instances, for the Ease and Benefit of our Colonies, Trade, and Navigation?

Is there nothing to be done for the Benefit of our Manufactures and Fisheries?

ARE no greater Rewards and Encouragements needed to revive the Loss of Publick Spirit, and promote the National Welfare?

Is it not the prevailing Fashion at present for most Men to endeavour to make their Fortunes, as they call it, out of Trade and Traders, rather than by fairly trading themselves?

MIGHT not more Encouragement and Protection be given to honest Informers against publick Abuses? And ought not such Informations to be rendered honourable?

ARE there not Abuses crept in prejudicial to Trade, dishonourable to the Government, and of general ill Example?

HAVE we not lost many Branches of our Trade, and are we not losing others?

Is there nothing to be done to prevent Poverty, and relieve insolvent Debtors?

HAVE we not too many People depending on Divinity, Law and Physick? And might not many of these be provided for, and their too great Increase for the future be prevented? — I reverence the Professions, but speak against the Numbers of Professors, many of them fitter for other Employments.

ARE there not many unwarrantable, as well as useless Occupations? — And, if we take away the Labourer, honest Farmer, Manufacturer and Trader, what a happy People shall we be! Many Mouths and no Bread!

HAVE not France and Muscovy, of late, shewn us, by their prodigious Successes, the Benefits to be made by wise Regulations and new Institutions? And shall we alone not shake off our old Prejudices before other Nations get too much the Start of us?



Is there nothing to be done for the Benefit of the Manufactures, and Trade of Scotland, Ireland, and our Plantations, consistent with the Policy and Interest of the Nation?

BESIDES, in such an Assembly, will not the Members from our several Towns of Trade and Manufactories, give fuller and clearer Accounts of the Nature of their Affairs, and the Improvements that may be made in them; and also receive many fresh Hints that may prove Motives to new Undertakings, or contribute to perfect their old?

FINALLY, As Merchants and Traders carry on Trade chiefly with a View to their own private Interests, without regarding whether it may tend to impoverish or debase the Nation or not, as in many Cases it does; ought not the Management of Trade to be superintended and regulated, with an Eye to the general Gain and Good of the whole Community?

N. B. THE *Pale Star* to direct this Court would seem to be, to promote the general and particular Good of Great Britain, and all its Dominions, by rendering each relative to the other, and every Part useful to the Whole; so that all being rightly disposed, and fitted together, may enjoy, within themselves, the Benefits of Nature, secured and improved by the Hand and Wisdom of Art. This will establish and fix the Prosperity of the British Empire upon a just and solid Foundation, as she has, or soon may have, all Things within herself, with this blessed Advantage, that cherishing her Colonies is increasing her Power, and securing her Trade. — And we find by Experience, that our Commerce with other Nations grows every Day uncertain, is often interrupted, frequently rendered impracticable, and sometimes prohibited, or otherwise totally lost. — Let this be its Motto, *Remember the Colonies.*

I am, S I R, your's, &c.

The National Merchant.

## L O N D O N.

Yesterday arrived a Mail from France.

It brings Advice, that the Marshal de Noailles, who, with his Son, arrived at Florence on the 17th Instant, N. S. received the usual Present from the Great Duke, and had a Conference with the Duke de Montemar. 'Tis said, that after he has discharged his Commission in Tuscany, he will go with another to Rome; and that after a few Days Stay there, he will go to visit the French Army in their Quarters, and then to Milan. The Furniture from the Palaces of Parma and Placentia being arrived at St. Peter d'Arena, was there put on board an English Ship to be carried to Naples; and 16 great Guns, and 7 Mortars were also arrived at the same Port, to be transported to Leghorn.

The Paris Almanac, which mentions the Compliments that were paid on New-Year's Day, to the King, the Queen, and the Princesses of France, say, that, on Thursday last, the Keeper of the Seals, gave Audience to all the foreign Ministers, when the Prince de la Torella, Don Carlos's Minister, told him, that he could not go to Versailles to wait on the King, because he had not yet received Orders for so doing from the King his Master, but he took the Opportunity to desire him to take Care of his Master's Interests.

The Actions of the India Company are risen to 2000. — The Province of Artois has granted the King a free Gift of 400,000 Livres.

The following is the Sum Total of the Christnings, Marriages and Burials in Paris and the Suburbs, for the Years 1732, 1733, and 1734; but we have not the Account for 1735.

	For 1732	1733	1734
Christnings	18,605	17,835	19,835
Marriages	4,103	4,132	4,133
Burials	17,532	17,466	15,122

Tuesday last the Marquis de Fenelon, the French Ambassador at the Hague, having received an Express from Paris, communicated to the States, by their President, the Preliminaries of Peace between the Emperor and the King of France; and the like was done by the Emperor's Minister. — The States of Holland are to re-assemble this Week.

'Tis confirmed from Poland, that King Stanislaus having thanked the Poles that remained with him, for their Attachment to him, advised them to return home and make their Submission to King Augustus, for that the French King had desired him to return to the Dutchy of Bar.

Yesterday Morning died, in the 69th Year of his Age, at his House in Bloomsbury-square, the Right Hon. Sir Robert Eyre, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, a Governor of the Char-

ter-house, and one of his Majesty's most Hon. Privy Council.

He was eldest Son of Sir Samuel Eyre, formerly a Judge of the Court of King's Bench, descended from an ancient Family in the County of Wilts.

He distinguished himself very early in his Profession, and served in many Parliaments for the City of New Sarum, which always shewed an uncommon Readiness and Unanimity in the Choice of him.

His Skill in Parliamentary Affairs, and in the Business of his Profession, set him high in the Opinion of the great Men of his Time, and recommended him to the Favour of her late Majesty Queen Anne, who, in the Year 1707, made him Solicitor General, and, in the same Year, he was a Commissioner for the Union of the two Kingdoms. In 1710 he was appointed to be one of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench, where his Steadiness proved of singular Use to his Country, and where he continued almost 13 Years, constantly asserting the Liberty of the Subject, and the just Rights and Prerogative of the Crown.

He served his present Majesty as his Chancellor, during all the Time his Majesty was Prince of Wales.

In 1722 he was made Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer; and, in 1725, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; all which Stations he passed through with Honour to himself, and Advantage to his Country. His long Experience, added to great Learning and Knowledge, together with an indefatigable Application to Business, enabling him to determine the most difficult Points of the Law with great Judgment and Perspicuity, and to give Dispatch to the Multiplicity of Causes that came before him.

His private Virtues were as worthy Imitation as his publick. He was a Man of great Politeness in Conversation, a generous Master and Benefactor to those under him, an excellent Father, and a sincere Friend, possessed of all those Qualities which render a Character truly great and amiable.

Next Wednesday will be a Rehearsal at the Devil Tavern at Temple Bar, of the Ode for New Year's Day, composed by Colley Cibber, Esq; Poet Laureat to his Majesty, and set to Musick by John Eccles, Esq; Master of his Majesty's Band of Musick.

Yesterday being the first Sunday after Christmas, the same was observed at St. James's as a high Festival, when the Knights Companions of the Garter, Thistle, and Bath wore the Collars of their respective Orders.

The same Day their Majesties, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the two eldest Princesses, went with the usual State to the Royal Chapel, and heard divine Service perform'd by the Rev. Dr. Clarke; and the Right Hon. the Earl of Orkney carried the Sword of State.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Lord Charles Hay, Brother to the Right Hon. the Marquis of Tweedale, to be Captain of a Troop of Dragoons in the Kingdom of Ireland.

Yesterday Se'nnight John Bostock of Maidenhead, Esq; was married at Ransstead Place in Surry, to Miss Edwards, an Heiress of 16,000l. Fortune.

The Day before died at Thames Ditton, Madam Burton, Relict of the late Sir Francis Burton, Kt.

Last Friday the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty view'd near 300 superannuated Seamen in the Garden behind the Admiralty Office, when their Lordships were pleased to minute down near 150 for the Pension of Greenwich Hospital.

Last Saturday Night, between 6 and 7 o'Clock, Mr. Dormer coming in his Coach from Kensington, to his House in Bond-street, was attacked at the End of Kensington Gore, by two Highwaymen, one of whom went to the Coachman and bid him stop, whilst the other made the Footman behind the Coach put out his Flambeaux; after which they robbed Mr. Dormer of his Gold Watch and his Money, and made off towards Kensington.

On Thursday last died at Chelsea, Joseph Curtis, Esq; a Gentleman in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and possessed of an Estate of 1200l. per Annum, which he has left to his Grandson, a Minor, at Eaton School.

On Tuesday last Philip Parker of Isleworth, Esq; was married at Putney, to Mrs. Griffin, Relict of the late — Griffin of Putney, Esq; a Gentlewoman of a good Estate.

The Passage relating to Dr. Waterland and Dr. Clarke in the first Column of our Paper of Saturday, should run thus:

This Dr. Waterland knew, when, in order to demolish Dr. Clarke's self-evident Proposition, that whatever is necessary to Salvation, must be plain, threw Darknes over every thing, and affirmed, that nothing was plain; no, not the Evidence of natural Religion, or moral Good and Evil, nor the Evidences for the Existence and Unity of God.

And instead of Rights, Cpl. 1. l. 29. read Lights.

And in Col. 2. l. 25. read as follows: Whereas a State of Nature, or, a State according to Nature, is a State according to the Rules of eternal Wisdom and unvarying Reason; a State of just Liberty, not a State of wild Licentiousness: So that Sir William Temple, who is lugged in for saying, Government is a Restraint upon Liberty, meant only, a Restraint upon Licentiousness; for he could not mean, that Government was a Restraint upon the Law of Nature and Reason, &c.

Saturday Bank Stock was 145 3-4ths to 146. India 169. South Sea 93 1-4th. Old Annuity 109 3-8ths. New ditto 110 to 1-4th. Three per Cent. Annuity 99 1-half. Emperor's Loan 109 1-half. Royal Assurance 102. London Assurance 13 to 1-8th. York Buildings 2. African 15. India Bonds 31. 100. to 12s. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 31. 15s. Premium. South Sea Bonds 4 l. 8s. Premium. New Bank Circulation 5 l. 5s. Premium. Salt Tallow 3 1-half to 4 Prem. English Copper 2 l. 1s. Welsh ditto, Books shut. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchange Orders 3 per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 110.

On Saturday last was Published,

(Containing Eight Sheets in Folio for 1s.)

N<sup>o</sup> LXXXII. being the 24th Number. And

On Saturday next will be Published,

N<sup>o</sup> LXXXIII. being the 25th Number of the

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N. B. By the Advice of several Learned and Ingenious Gentlemen, the Undertakers of this Translation determined to preserve Mr. BAYLE'S Work entire. But for those who shall desire it, they intend to print (by Way of Supplement) at Three Half-pence per Sheet, The Lives of the most eminent Men, particularly those of Great Britain and Ireland, not mentioned by Mr. BAYLE; towards which they have been already favoured with many valuable Materials, never yet published.

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